

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 065064

FOLL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM USUN 05 APRI 73 REPEATED TO YOU FOR
FINFO QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 1202

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC

SUBJ: WORKING GROUP ON OUT- OF- TOWN SESSIONS OF SC

REF: USUN 238 AND USUN 1083

1. DEPT WILL RECALL THAT SC COMMITTEE ON HOLDING MEETINGS
AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS (WORKING GROUP) ON JANUARY 25 CONCLUDED
THAT IT SHOULD MEET AGAIN " WITHIN THREE MONTHS AFTER PANAMA
MEETING" TO ESTABLISH GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR OUT- OF- TOWN
MEETINGS OF SC. WE ARE INCLINED TO TAKE INITIATIVE TO BRING
ABOUT SUCH MEETINGS SOONER RATHER THAN LATER, AND PLAN TO BEGIN
CORRIDOR CAMPAIGN IN NEXT FEW DAYS. DURING APRIL, PERU
(PEREZ DE CUELLAR) IS PRESIDENT, TO BE FOLLOWED BY USSR
AND UK. ALTHOUGH MALIK MIGHT MAKE MISCHIEF ON SOME ISSUES,
OUR PRESENT INCLINATION IS WE THINK WORKING GROUP COULD
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WORK CONSTRUCTIVELY UNDER ANY OF THESE PRESIDENTS. THAT THERE IS ENOUGH WORK THAT NEEDS DOING TO KEEP WORKING GROUP SPORADICALLY OCCUPIED OVER PERIOD OF WEEKS.

2. GIVEN STRONG POSITION US HAS TAKEN IN WORKING GROUP AND IN CRITICIZING WHOLE CONCEPT OF OUT- OF- TOWN MEETINGS, WE SEE NO REASON WHY WE SHOULD BE INHIBITED ABOUT TAKING ACTIVE ROLE IN UPCOMING WG MEETINGS. UNLESS TACTICAL SITUATION DICTATED OTHERWISE, WE WOULD SEEK TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN DRAFTING COMMITTEE OR OTHER SUB- GROUPS.

3. AS SUGGESTED USUN 1083, WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE UNREALISTIC TO PRETEND THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE OUT- OF- TOWN MEETINGS. AT MINIMUM THERE LIKELY TO BE " ASIAN" MEETING IN 1974 BEFORE EVEN PAUSE IN CYCLE OCCURS. HOWEVER, BELIEVE WE CAN WITH SOME PROSPECT OF SUCCESS PRESS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PRINCIPLES THAT WOULD REDUCE LIKELIHOOD OF FUTURE MEETINGS AS ILL- JUSTIFIED AS THIS YEAR' S PANAMA AFFAIR.

4. FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES COULD BE POINT OF DEPARTURE:

A. MEETINGS SHOULD IN GENERAL NOT BE HOSTED BY MEMBER COUNTRY. IDEALLY, PRESIDENT SHOULD BE FROM OUTSIDE HOST REGION. (THIS WOULD OBVIATE DECISION ON HOLDING MEETING DURING MONTH WHEN HOST COUNTRY OCCUPIES PRESIDENCY.)

B. AGENDA SHOULD JUSTIFY SPECIAL VENUE.

C. MEETINGS SHOULD NOT BE HELD UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES (INCLUDING GEORGRAPHIC CIRCUMSTANCES) SUBJECTING COUNCIL TO INVIDIOUS INFLUENCES, WHETHER ON BILATERAL ISSUE OF INTEREST TO HOST COUNTRY OR SC MEMBER OR OTHERWISE.

D. US SHOULD PRESS ITS VIEWS ON FINANCING OUT- OF- TOWN MEETINGS, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF FACT PANAMA MEETING WIDELY UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE BEEN EXPENSIVE PROPOSITION.

6. WE MUST RECOGNIZE THAT SOME OF ABOVE PRINCIPLES CAN CUT TWO WAYS. FOR EXAMPLE, WE MIGHT PREFER IN 1974 TO SEE MEETING IN JAKARTA, RAHTER THAN BANGKOK, IF CHOICE NARROWED DOWN TO THESE TWO. FOR THIS REASON AND BECAUSE
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WORKING GROUP MEETINGS LIKELY TO BE SOMEWHAT UNSTRUCTURED,

WE HOPE TO BE ALLOWED CONSIDERABLE LATITUDE IN PRESSING
OUR CONCERNS IN WG. BY THIS VERY TOKEN, WE WOULD APPRECIATE
ALL THOUGHTS AND GENERAL GUIDANCE DEPT MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE
AS WE ENTER UPON THESE RATHER UNPREDICTABLE DISCUSSIONS.
SCALI UNQUOTE ROGERS

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